

The Department of Defense Appropriations bill signed today by the President includes funding for security systems and the redevelopment of former military installations

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(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Albio Sires secured funding for programs that will increase security and redevelop military infrastructure located in the 13th Congressional District. Funding for the Security for Critical Communications Network (SCCN) program and the Ship Repair Facility at the Military Ocean Terminal in Bayonne, New Jersey was included in the final conference report for H.R. 3332, the Fiscal Year 2008 Department of Defense (DOD) Appropriations bill. The conference report was signed into law on November 14, 2007 by President Bush.

"I am pleased that I was able to secure funding that will assist the Stevens Institute of Technology in reinforcing our national security," said Congressman Sires. "This funding is vital to our ongoing mission of keeping America safe. I am proud that our congressional district is home to the men and women who design and implement innovative security systems and preserve valuable military resources. Furthermore, the funding for Bayonne will help the redevelopment efforts of the former military base."

Congressman Sires was able to secure \$2.4 million in funding for SCCN, included in the final conference report for FY 2008 DOD Appropriations. This defense-wide research and development project at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey works to address pressing needs at the Department of Defense and to secure them against digital communication vulnerabilities in global computer networks. The system works to identify threats buried in data, as well as clandestine threats appearing in wireless networks.

In addition, funding was also secured by Congressman Sires for the Ship Repair Facility at the Military Ocean Terminal in Bayonne, New Jersey. The Local Redevelopment Authority of Bayonne will receive \$8 million to replace 1,900 feet of failing bulkheads that stabilize the ship repair facility's shoreline, and ensure the structural integrity of the facility's dry dock. The project will also construct two access bridges to the ship repair facility's functioning deep water berth, and carry out face repairs to the facility's adjoining S-1 berth.

The final conference report for the FY 2008 DOD Appropriations included funding for department operations, as well as a 3.5 percent pay raise for our troops. The bill also strengthens healthcare for our wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, and provides support to military families through upgrades to army facilities. This includes barracks, child care facilities, and community services at bases throughout the United States, Europe, and Korea.

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